

and selling of electricity through wholesale electricity markets, and assessing and planning for the future needs of the electric grid. PJM has devoted itself to those goals as an industry technology innovator, operating similar to a stock exchange and developing electricity rates through a bidding process that aligns supply with demand. That PJM model is one that has been emulated not just across the country, but around the world.

As the work of PJM has reached a global scale, I am especially proud that this company continues to call Pennsylvania home and remains an integral part of our economy and electric grid infrastructure. For the last 90 years, PJM has worked to develop groundbreaking changes in electricity and technology to improve the lives of all Americans. Together with a grateful Commonwealth and a grateful nation, I take this opportunity to thank them for their last nine decades of innovation and wish them well for another 90 years of excellence and beyond.●

TRIBUTE TO STAN WILMOTH

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Stan Wilmoth, whose relentless commitment and service to his community makes us all proud to call him a fellow Nevadan.

This month, the American Cancer Society will pay tribute to Mr. Wilmoth by presenting him with their first-ever "Spirit of Hope Award." This prestigious award is given to individuals who are dedicated to their community, wellness, education, quality of life, and who advocate on behalf of the American Cancer Society.

Mr. Wilmoth is well-deserving of this award as he has an extensive record of giving back to Nevada. Whether it is serving as a volunteer fireman in Lemmon Valley for 10 years or helping advance construction of the Ronald McDonald House, we are grateful for Mr. Wilmoth's many contributions to our community and his involvement in programs like Head Start. In addition to serving as a member of the Reno Sparks Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Wilmoth has also held several other leadership board positions, including chairman of the Nevada Bankers Association and presenting sponsor of the American Cancer Society's annual fundraiser. For the past 10 years, he has been instrumental in the development of the Suits & Sneakers Gala, offering guidance and support of the American Cancer Society's mission.

For 17 years, Mr. Wilmoth has served as president and chief executive officer of Heritage Bank, which serves as a lifeline in our State's economy. Under his leadership, Heritage Bank has played a large role in getting small businesses off the ground and making northern Nevada a better region to live, work, and raise a family. In fact, the bank earned the title of "SBA Lender of the Year in Northern Ne-

vada" for the past 6 years, assisting many businesses and their families.

Before joining Heritage, Mr. Wilmoth served as vice president, northern Nevada regional loan manager for Nevada State Bank, and assistant vice president/commercial account officer and commercial service officer for U.S. Bank. He also served on the Federal Reserve Board for Community Banks for multiple years.

Mr. Wilmoth's dedication and community involvement in Nevada is a true testament to his character, and we are privileged he is one of our own. His commitment and hard work in the fight for a world without cancer is truly admirable.

In closing, I am honored and proud to recognize Stan Wilmoth for his leadership and advocacy on behalf of Nevada. I congratulate him on this remarkable achievement and wish him the best in his future endeavors.●

RECOGNIZING THE BUSINESS COUNCIL OF DOUGLAS COUNTY

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the Business Council of Douglas County for 25 years of striving toward a "diverse, sustainable and healthy economy" for Douglas County, NV.

The Business Council of Douglas County started in September of 1992 and consists of business owners, professionals, and industry leaders who collaborate with State, local, and Federal government institutions to identify and resolve critical matters in the business community. Ultimately, the partnership formed increases the ability of small businesses to grow, expand, and hire in Douglas County and across northern Nevada.

In 1996, Douglas County adopted a 20-year master plan designed to provide guidance to the county's future development. Just 4 years into their existence, the council was instrumental in helping to shape that plan. Their involvement presented them with a unique opportunity to share their input and better shape the county's economic future.

In addition to providing advice and insight to government entities, the Business Council of Douglas County plays a prominent role in educating the community and serving as a catalyst for debate on relevant and timely issues. By holding townhall debates and educational forums on critical issues like water and transportation, as well as forums for candidates running to serve in public office, the council has helped facilitate a community where everyone has a vested interest in the county's future.

Furthermore, the Business Council of Douglas County is striving to do more and encouraging businessowners in northern Nevada, as well as community members, to participate in the organization's efforts and to stay informed. To accomplish this, the coun-

cil distributes a weekly newsletter on topics of importance to the business community, relevant government meetings, votes, projects, and news. The council's general membership hosts a monthly breakfast with guest speakers at no charge because all meetings are open to members and their invited guests. They also host an annual critical issues conference. This year's conference is another way for them to discuss important issues to the county and its ability to grow the economy.

The Business Council of Douglas County's efforts and priorities go hand-in-hand with my fight in Washington, DC, to foster an economic climate that allows small businesses to invest, grow, and hire across the State. Having served in the Nevada Legislature and currently as our State's senior Senator, I can attest to the significance of the council and the partnership they have formed with all levels of government.

In closing, I am honored and proud to recognize the Business Council of Douglas County for 25 years of tireless advocacy on behalf of the entire community. Through years of hard work, planning, and educational efforts, the Douglas County business community has an open and transparent dialogue with their State, local, and Federal officials. The partnership that has developed will not only continue to grow but benefit the community for years to come.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3354. An act making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with